



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. SMT-003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Manfred Rietzler GROUP NO.: Not yet assigned
SERIAL NO.: 10/593,046 EXAMINER: Not yet assigned
FILING DATE: September 15, 2006
TITLE: SEAL DEVICE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby make of record the patents and publications listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, for consideration by the Examiner in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. In accordance with the U.S. Patent Office's partial waiver of the requirement under 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(2)(i), only copies of the foreign patent documents and non-patent publications are enclosed.

REMARKS

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R., this statement is being filed (check one)

- ☒ (1) within three (3) months of the **filing date** of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(d), or within three (3) months of the **date of entry of the national stage** as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.491 in an international application, or before the mailing of the **first Office action** on the merits, or before the mailing of a **first Office action** after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. 1.114; or
- ☐ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a **final action** or a **notice of allowance** under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, and
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, **OR**

- ☐ the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00**, is included herein, or
- ☐ (3) after the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance but before the payment of the issue fee, **AND**
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, **AND**
- ☐ the requisite fee under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p), namely **\$180.00**, is included herein.

It is respectfully requested that each of the patents and publications listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, and other information contained herein, be made of record in this application.

STATEMENT

As required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), Applicant(s), through the undersigned, hereby state either that **[check the appropriate space only if either (2) or (3) is checked on the previous page and the Statement is required]**:

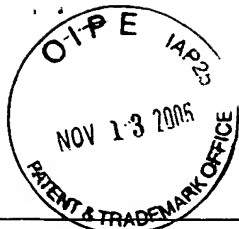
- ☐ 1. Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application **not more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement; or
- ☐ 2. No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing this Statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to **any individual** designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) **more than three months** prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,



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SHEET 1 of 1

FORM PTO - 1449 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	ATTY DOCKET NO.: SMT-003 APPLICANT: Manfred Rietzler SERIAL NO.: 10/593,046 FILING DATE: September 15, 2006 GROUP: Not yet assigned
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM INIT.		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	6,002,343	12/14/1999	Auerbach et al.	340	825.54	
	A2	5,097,253	03/17/1992	Eschbach et al.	340	545	
	A3	3,712,655	01/23/1973	Fuehrer	292	321	
	A4	US 2003/0052782 A1	03/20/2003	Maloney	340	568.4	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAM INIT.		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY CODE	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE	ABSTRACT ONLY	ENGLISH LANG (Y/N)
	B1	EP 0 978 812 A2	02/09/2000	EP				N	Y
	B2	EP 1 171 330 B1	06/23/2004	EP				N	Y
	B3	DE 692 09 851 T2		EP				N	N
	B4	DE 298 13 738 U1		DE				N	N
	B5	DE 295 21 243 U1		DE				N	N
	B6	GB 2 368 174 A		GB				N	Y

OTHER ART, JOURNAL ARTICLES, ETC.

EXAM INIT.		OTHER DOCUMENTS: (Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)
	C1	International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/DE2005/002282, date of mailing 04/20/2006.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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